

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary
August 11, 2014

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chairman
Mr. Robert Ericson
Mr. Henry Sayers
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrants Signed

The meeting was opened by Mr. Goerlach at 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing

An application for a Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers License was presented to the Board for ecoATM. Mr. Sieloff stated that ecoATM will be located at the Berkshire Mall. Investigator Timothy Sorrell was present for the Lanesboro Police Department. Investigator Sorrell stated he had no problems with the company. He stated that it is an eco-friendly company, manned by a self-service vending machine not a person. All record checks Officer Sorrell performed came back clean. Mr. Sayers stated that he had seen a report of people stealing cell phones and returning them to these types of machines for money. Mr. Ericson asked Mr. Sayers if he could find the report. Investigator Sorrell said that the license could be suspended if there were problems. Motion 14-143. Motion to approve Second Hand Dealer/Pawn Broker's License of ecoATM made by Robert Ericson, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#1]

Public Comment

None.

Permit(s), Contract(s), Use of Town Property and Appointment(s)

Berkshire Gas Company Permit Application. Mr. Sieloff presented a memorandum to the Board from Highway Superintendent William Decelles supporting the application to install new gas service at 41 Baker Street. Mr. Decelles stated in the Memorandum that he would like to be notified when job commences. Motion 14-144. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve Berkshire Gas application, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Berkshire Gas to notify Town when work commences. [#2]

National Multiple Sclerosis/New England Chapter Bike Ride. Mr. Ericson questioned route of bike ride. Mr. Goerlach would like applicant present and the matter placed on next agenda. [#3]

Hoosac Valley Motorcycle Club Event. Mr. Goerlach would like applicant present and the matter placed on next agenda. [#4]

Fire Department Board of Engineer Appointments

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with list of changes to the Fire Department Board of Engineers. Motion 14-145. Motion made by Robert Ericson to remove, Tim Sayers as Captain, Matt Montini as Captain and Pete Durso from the Fire Department Board of Engineers, seconded by John Goerlach. Motion carried 2-0. Henry Sayers abstained from vote. Motion

14-146. Motion made by Robert Ericson to add Ryan McCormick as Captain, Adam Ambrose as Lieutenant and Devon Whalen as Lieutenant for one year terms to the Fire Department Board of Engineers, seconded by John Goerlach. Unanimously voted. [#5]

Tax Work Off Program - Marion King

Mr. Sieloff presented a Senior Citizen Tax Rebate Program Application to the Board from Marion King for the Brown Bag Program and asked that she be appointed to this position. Mr. Sieloff stated that there was a resignation from the Program and that Ms. King would be filling that vacancy. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Board would be seeing more of these as applicants needed to be appointed to this program. Motion 14-147. Motion made by Robert Ericson to appoint Marion King to the Senior Citizen Tax Rebate Program, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#6]

Finance Committee - Stephen Wentworth

Finance Committee Chair Al Terranova recommended Stephen Wentworth to the Board and asked that he be appointed for a term from today's date to June, 2015. In June, 2015 there would be an election for the two-year seat. Motion 14-148. Motion made by Robert Ericson to appoint Stephen Wentworth to the Finance Committee, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#7]

Award Paving Bid

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a Memorandum from Highway Superintendent William Decelles with a list of Town paving bids. Mr. Decelles recommended to award the bid for paving to Delsignore Blacktop Paving, Inc., for \$70 per ton. Motion 14-149. Motion made by Robert Ericson to accept Delsignore Blacktop Paving, Inc., at \$70 per ton, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#8]

Solar Project Update [Ericson]

Robert Ericson presented Mark Guilds from The Solar Guild. Mr. Guilds requested that the Town consider putting out a request for proposal to build a solar energy farm. Mr. Guilds proposed that the Town own the system. Mr. Guilds stated that a loan would be necessary but that there were programs that the Town could apply for to lower interest rates. Mr. Guilds stated that they have done studies but he did not bring them with him. Mr. Ericson stated that they needed to see how much they wanted to invest in system and that they are still in early stages of proposal. Mr. Goerlach asked if Mr. Ericson had numbers. Mr. Ericson stated they were preliminary numbers. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff if they are at point where they can proceed. Mr. Sieloff said this is a different proposal and deferred to Mr. Ericson as part of the Energy Committee. Mr. Ericson stated there are energy consultants they can hire and that the Town can apply for grants from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to hire a consultant to review the RFP and present it to the Board. Mr. Ericson wants to apply for the grant to get the process started. Motion 14-150. Motion made by Robert Ericson to allow the Energy Committee to approach the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission for a one time grant for an energy consultant to assist in

preparing a RFP for a solar project in the Town, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Streetlights Proposal - locations [Ericson]

Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Ericson about the lights on Prospect Street. Prospect Street will remain as is with no lights removed. Mr. Sayers stated that residents requested to retain lights on Swamp Road. Mr. Ericson reminded the Board that the lights would be red capped and that the Board and the energy company would monitor them based on feedback from residents. Mr. Goerlach stated that when the project began it was agreed that lights would remain if residents requested it. Mr. Goerlach stated that he did not want lights turned off on Cheshire Road due to safety issues relative to accidents. Mr. Goerlach would like the light near the Injected Solutions mold shop to remain. Mr. Sayers asked about lights on Minor Road. Mr. Ericson said they did not take those off due to children walking off school bus.

Motion 14-151.

Motion made by John Goerlach as follows:

1. Keep the lights on the north side of Old State Road and alternate every other pole on the south side.
2. Poles listed as Count #s 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 47 on spreadsheet will remain on. All other poles on list will be red capped.
3. Poles #67/36 from previous spreadsheet will be removed.
4. Lights on Prospect Street will remain as is.
5. Lights on Swamp Road will remain as is.

Seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 2-1. Opposed by Robert Ericson. [#9]

Jeff Duchaine came before the Board to inquire about lights at 24 Irwin Street. Mr. Duchaine stated that 21 Irwin Street was broken into and that less lighting could pose a problem. Mr. Ericson asked if residents had lights on their houses. Mr. Duchaine stated that they did but that out buildings on the properties were far enough away and did not have electricity run to them so street lights are important. Mr. Goerlach stated that Highway Department had asked for the lights due to a turn-around. Mr. Ericson wants to redcap the lights and if residents have a problem they can contact the Town. Mr. Ericson said it is a cost saving measure to try to reduce taxes.

Proposed K-12 District Informational Meeting for Oct. 20, 2014

Mr. Sieloff recommended October 20th to the Board for the meeting. Mr. Goerlach stated that he received an email from Carrie Greene that they do not want a meeting. Mr. Goerlach stated that Ms. Greene wants to set up their own meeting. Board agreed to set a date subject to more feedback from Ms. Greene.

Letter to McCann Tech requesting small roofing project over fueling system. Mr. Sieloff presented to the Board that a roof should be put in place over the fueling station at the Police Department to shelter it from the elements. Mr. Sieloff stated that McCann Technical School

could do this work and if a request is submitted quickly, work could possibly begin in the Fall. Mr. Ericson recommended that a light be installed on the roof as well so that the street light could be removed to save the Town some money. Mr. Goerlach would like to check with the Police Department. Mr. Sayers asked if it was possible to also wire for a security camera. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would add this to the letter to the school. Motion 14-152. Motion to contact McCann Technical School to ask for bid to place a roof over the fueling station with lighting and security camera at the Police Department made by John Goerlach, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Equipment Rental Bids for FY 2015

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a Memorandum from Highway Superintendent William Decelles with a list of equipment rental bids. Mr. Decelles recommended that the Board accept the catch basin bid from Maintenance Man, Inc. for \$130 per hour. Mr. Decelles also presented to the Board in the Memorandum that due to a tie between The Maintenance Man, Inc. and Donovan Construction relative to the Street Sweeper bid that a coin toss was made and the winner was Maintenance Man, Inc. with a bid of \$110 per hour. Motion 14-153. Motion to award the equipment rental and street sweeper contract to Maintenance Man, Inc. made by Robert Ericson, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#10]

Highway Superintendent Contract

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with the contract for the Highway Superintendent. Mr. Sieloff stated that Mr. Decelles was concerned about the annual funding paragraph on the first page of the contract. Mr. Sieloff stated that Massachusetts law requires that there be a Town meeting vote to expend the funds. Mr. Goerlach stated that this paragraph should be removed from this contract but it will be renegotiated with the next contract. Robert Ericson asked about removing floating holidays. Mr. Sieloff stated that only applied to future employees in the union contract. Motion 14-154. Motion made by John Goerlach to approve the Highway Superintendent contract with requested changes, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 2-0. Henry Sayers abstained from vote. [#11]

Board of Health Office Manager Proposal

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a job description for a part-time Office Manager for the Board of Health. Mr. Sieloff stated that with the new hire office hours will be slightly extended but budget will remain the same. Mr. Sieloff stated that the position will be advertised in next couple of weeks and that he would present the Board with a list of applicants. [#12]

Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting.

None.

Selectmen's Items

Mr. Sayers asked Mr. Sieloff about Rockwell Road. Mr. Sieloff talked to Representative Bob Mellace from the Department of Conservation and Recreation and stated that they will review paperwork and get back in touch with him. Mr. Sayers stated that residents were complaining about houses that have been abandoned or turned over to banks and not being maintained. Mr. Sayers stated that the residents are complaining about these homes bringing down their property values. Mr. Sayers said he could get Mr. Sieloff a list of properties if needed. Mr. Sayers said that residents are complaining about trucks dropping off debris on property on Swamp Road and North Main Street. Mr. Sieloff asked Mr. Sayers to give him more information about this situation after the meeting. Mr. Goerlach asked about an article that was in IBerkshires regarding insurance. Mr. Goerlach stated that Board would like to be notified about budget transfers in the future. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would notify the Board. Mr. Goerlach talked about the look of the Town with the overgrown trees particularly on Route 7. Mr. Goerlach asked if there was a possible grant that the Town could apply for or maybe talk to the Tree Warden to sculpt/maintain these overgrown and dead trees to help keep the Town's appearance up. Mr. Goerlach stated that the Board should make contact with the power company about taking down more trees when they do their maintenance. Mr. Sieloff said he would talk to Highway Superintendent William Decelles about this issue.

Town Administrator Report

Mr. Sieloff pointed out to the Board that the sidewalk had been repaired in front of Town Hall by the State. Mr. Sieloff asked the Board about how they wished to recognize William Stevens, former Finance Committee Chair, for his many years of service to the Town, possibly with a special page in the next Annual Town Report. Mr. Sieloff asked the Board if they had any suggestions. Mr. Goerlach requested a moment of silence in his honor.

Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff if he received any information about Mr. Nardin. Mr. Sieloff stated that Harbormaster Lee Hauge had responded to Mr. Nardin's questions on more than one occasion. Mr. Sieloff stated that Bob Barton's committee is still looking into the matters so it is still unresolved. Mr. Goerlach proposed that the Board send Mr. Betit a letter requesting him to move his boat and boat lift from the right of way to make room for people to use the wall. The right of way is currently blocked by Mr. Betit's boat and boat lift. Mr. Goerlach would like the Board to agree to put up a sign that this portion is to be used by residents with deeded lake rights (not the general public). Mr. Sieloff stated that he would send out a letter. [#13]

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of July 22, 2014, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted.

Adjournment.

Motion made by Henry Sayers to adjourn, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Footnotes:

- [#1] Application for Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers License of ecoATM
- [#2] Berkshire Gas Permit Application - 41 Baker Street
- [#3] Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property - National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- [#4] Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property - Hoosac Valley Motorcycle Club
- [#5] List of Appointments - Fire Department Board of Engineers
- [#6] Senior Citizen Tax Rebate Program Application - Marion King
- [#7] Lanesborough Citizen Interest Form for Finance Committee - Stephen Wentworth
- [#8] Paving Award Memorandum from Highway Superintendent William Decelles
- [#9] Streetlights Proposal Spreadsheets
- [#10] Catch Basin and Street Sweeper Award Memorandum from Highway Superintendent William Decelles
- [#11] Highway Superintendent Contract
- [#12] Job Description - Office Manager - Board of Health
- [#13] Email from John Hickey to Paul Sieloff regarding Mr. Nardin and Mr. Betit